

Remarks

The Office Action dated August 6, 2004 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1, 4-13, 16-23, and 36-41 are pending in this application. Claims 2, 3, 14, 15, and 24-35 have been canceled. Claims 9, 10, 19, 20, 22, 29, 30, and 32 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 4-8, 11-13, 16-18, 21, 23, 24, 27, 28, 31, and 33-41 are subject to restriction requirement.

Applicants and the undersigned wish to express their appreciation to the Examiner for the courtesies he extended during a telephone interview that occurred on September 1, 2004. During the interview, the Office Action dated August 6, 2004 was discussed. Specifically, whether Claims 13 and 16-18, 21, and 23, which were inadvertently omitted from the restriction requirement, were members of the Group I claims of the restriction requirement was discussed. The Examiner agreed that these claims were members of the Group I claims. The Examiner also noted that the pending claims appeared to be allowable.

Applicants, without traverse, elect for prosecution in this application all claims that belong to Group I, i.e., Claims 1, 4-8, 11-13, 16-18, 21, 23, 24, 27, 28, 31, and 33-41. Also, Group II claims 24-35 have been canceled.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this

application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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